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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re application of: Midorikawa et al.

Attorney Docket No.: ALPSP249

Application No.: 10/577,842

Examiner: Unassigned

Int'l Filing Date: October 26, 2004

Group: Unassigned

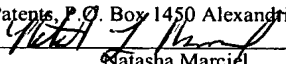
Title: BUCKLE SWITCH AND BUCKLE  
DEVICE

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents and/or fees referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on April 12, 2007 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10, Mailing Label Number EV843691645US, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Malasha Marciel

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97(b)**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The reference(s) identified in the attached PTO Form 1449 (copies of non-U.S. references are attached) may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants identify these reference(s) in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make the identified reference(s) of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that the identified reference(s) indeed constitute prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is: (i) filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-referenced application, (ii) believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or (iii) believed to be filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure

Statement. However, if it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. ALPSP249).

Respectfully submitted,  
BEYER WEAVER LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SD Beyer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steve D Beyer  
Registration No. 31,234

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Oakland, CA 94612-0250

<b>Form 1449 (Modified)</b>  <b>Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant</b>  (Use Several Sheets if Necessary)	<b>Atty Docket No.</b>	ALPSP249
	<b>Application No.:</b>	10/577,842
	<b>Applicant</b>	Midorikawa et al.
	<b>Int'l Filing Date</b>	October 26, 2004
	<b>Group</b>	Unassigned
		Page 1 of 1

**U.S. Patent Documents**

Examiner Initial	No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
	A.						
	B.						
	C.						
	D.						

**Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub-Class	Translation	
							Yes	No
	E.	2001-71865	03/21/01	Japan				
	F.	2003-127830	05/08/03	Japan				
	G.	2003-81057	03/19/03	Japan				

**Other Documents**

Examiner Initial	No.	Author, Title, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication, Date
	H.	International Search Report dated February 15, 2005 from corresponding PCT Application No. PCT/JP2004/015834.
	I.	
	J.	
	K.	
	L.	
	M.	
	N.	
	O.	
	P.	
	Q.	
	R.	
	S.	
	T.	

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
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Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.